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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,303	02/28/2002	Masahiro Uchida	112109	6790
25944	7590	04/21/2004	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			WILLIAMS, JOSEPH L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,303

Applicant(s)

UCHIDA, MASAHIRO

Examiner

Joseph L. Williams

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8,9 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8,9 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed on 07 January 2004 has been entered.

The indication of allowable subject matter has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanabe (US 5,871,088).

Regarding claim 1, Tanabe ('088) teaches in figure 2 and in column 2, line 24 through column 3, line 35, an electronic apparatus, comprising: a case having a transparent member (3) that defines one surface; and a luminescent panel (4-9) formed in the case, the transparent member having electrodes (4 and 9) over the one surface and being integrated with the luminescent panel; and the transparent member having a curved surface and the luminescent panel being formed along the curved surface of the transparent member in a curved manner.

Regarding claim 2, Tanabe ('088) teaches the luminescent panel being a transparent panel that includes a transparent component.

Regarding claim 4, Tanabe ('088) teaches in figure 3 the luminescent panel defining an area that is not provided with luminescent elements, the transparent member defining an area corresponding to the area of the luminescent panel that is not

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provided with luminescent elements, the area of the transparent member being treated so as not to transmit ultraviolet light.

Regarding claim 6, Tanabe ('088) teaches in figure 2 and in column 2, line 24 through column 3, line 35, an electronic apparatus, comprising: a luminescent panel (4-9); a case that houses the luminescent panel (3), the case being evacuated; and the luminescent panel including a transparent flexible component.

Regarding claim 11, Tanabe ('088) teaches a method of making an electronic apparatus, comprising: assembling a case, the case having a transparent member that defines one surface, a self luminous panel formed in the case, the transparent member having electrodes over the one surface and being integrated with the self luminous panel; and incorporating the case into the electronic apparatus.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanabe (US 5,871,088) in view of Eida et al. (US 5,909,081).

Regarding claim 5, Tanabe ('088) teaches in figure 2 and in column 2, line 24 through column 3, line 35, an electronic apparatus comprising: a luminescent panel (4-

9); and a case (3) that houses the luminescent panel, the luminescent panel including a transparent flexible component.

Tanabe ('088) does not disclose the case being filled with an inactive gas.

Further regarding claim 5, Eida ('081) teaches in column 21, lines 60-63, filling the case with an inactive gas for the purpose of preventing oxidation of the luminescent panel thus increasing the lifetime of the display.

Hence it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the inactive gas of Eida in the display of Tanabe for the purpose of preventing oxidation of the luminescent panel thus increasing the lifetime of the display.

Regarding claim 8, Tanabe ('088) teaches in figure 3 the electronic apparatus further comprising: a controller that controls the drive of the luminescent panel, opposing a non- displaying surface of the luminescent panel, the luminescent panel being curved such that a surface that displays information of the luminescent panel is convex, and electrode lead-out portions provided at ends of the luminescent panel in the curving direction being connected to the controller.

Regarding claim 9, Tanabe ('088) teaches the curving direction being substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the electrodes provided in the luminescent panel.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-2465. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30 AM-3:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Joseph Williams

Examiner
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